Millennial Star

Vol. 104, No. 30

Thursday, July 23, 1942

POETRY

PILGRIM SONG

Over the mountain wave, see where they come;
Storm cloud and wintry wind welcome them home;
Yet, where the sounding gale howls to the sea,
There their song peals along, deep-toned and free:
"Pilgrims and wanderers, hither we come;
Where the free dare to be—this is our home!"

England hath sunny dales, dearly they bloom;
Scotia hath heather hills, sweet their perfume:
Yet through the wilderness cheerful we stray,
Native land, native land—home far away!
"Pilgrims and wanderers, hither we come,
Where the free dare to be—this is our home!"

Dim grew the forest path: onward they trod.
Firm beat their noble hearts, trusting in God.
Grey men and blooming maids, high rose their song;
Hear it sweep, clear and deep, ever along:
"Pilgrims and wanderers, hither we come;
Where the free dare to be—this is our home!"

Not theirs the glory-wreath, torn by the blast;
Heavenward their holy steps, heavenward they passed.
Green be their mossy graves, ours be their fame,
While their song peals along, ever the same:
"Pilgrims and wanderers, hither we come,
Where the free dare to be—this is our home!"

—George Lunt.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

He is not only idle who does nothing, but he is idle who might be better employed.

—Socrates.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

Vol. 104, No. 30 Thursday, July 23, 1942 Price 2½d.

Let him that is ignorant learn wisdom by humbling himself and calling upon the Lord his God, that his eyes may be opened that he may see, and his ears opened that he may hear,

For my Spirit is sent forth into the world to enlighten the humble and contrite and to the condemnation of the ungodly.

Thy brethren have rejected you and your testimony, even the nation that has driven you out;

And now cometh the day of their calamity, even the days of sorrow, like a woman that is taken in travail; and their sorrow shall be great, unless they speedily repent; yea very speedily;

For they killed the prophets, and them that were sent unto them, and they have shed innocent blood, which cried from the ground against them.—Doctrine and Covenants 136: 32-36.

—The word and will of the Lord, given through President Brigham Young, at the Winter Quarters of the Camp of Israel near Council Bluffs. January 14th, 1847.

WE GIVE THANKS

for the memory of our Latter-day Saint Pioneers; for their undying faith and ardour, for their supreme devotion to our Gospel; for our beloved and inspired leader and coloniser, Brigham Young.

WE PAY HOMAGE

to them for their unselfish sacrifice, when, in seeking refuge from the sons of men, they walked a thousand miles, to an unknown destination, and found a valley, devoid of human life and vegetation. Their leader having designated this "the place," they settled down to make it "blossom as the rose."

WE FEEL

that since there stands in this same place one of, if not the most beautiful of the world's cities, there is owing to them a debt of eternal gratitude. May their deeds live forever, for

SURELY, THIS WAS THEIR FINEST HOUR!

—J. P. H.

THIS WEEK'S COVER

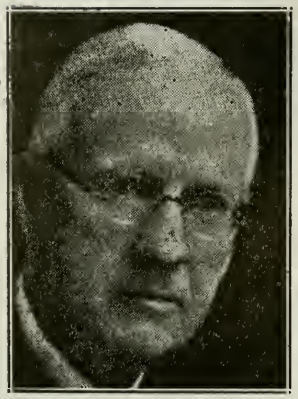
Joseph Smith at the Hill Cumorah. See p. 471. (From a painting by J. Leo Fairbanks.)

The Blessings Of The Priesthood

ADDRESS given at the Saturday morning session of the 112th Annual General Conference, April 4th, 1942, in the Assembly Hall.

By President Rudger Clawson

Of the Council of the Twelve



President Rudger Clawson

IF a man would ascend to exaltation and glory he must have the Priesthood. Without the Priesthood we are helpless. With the Priesthood we can accomplish much.

I refer you to the eighty-fourth section of the Doctrine and Covenants, which is a revelation from God and refers to the work in which we are engaged. Commencing with verse 32:

"And the sons of Moses and of Aaron shall be filled with the glory of the Lord, upon Mount Zion in the Lord's house, whose sons are ye; and also many whom I have called and sent forth to build up my church.

"For whoso is faithful unto the obtaining these two priesthoods of which I have spoken, and the magnifying their calling, are sanctified by the Spirit unto the renewing of their bodies.

"They become the sons of Moses and of Aaron and the seed of Abraham, and the church and kingdom, and the elect of God.

And also all they who receive this priesthood receiveth me, saith the Lord;

"For he that receiveth my servants receiveth me;

"And he that receiveth me receiveth my Father;

"And he that receiveth my Father receiveth my Father's kingdom; therefore all that my Father hath shall be given unto him.

"And this is according to the oath and covenant which belongeth to the priesthood.

"Therefore, all those who receive the priesthood, receive this oath and covenant of my Father, which he cannot break, neither can it be moved.

"But whoso breaketh this covenant after he hath received it, shall not have forgiveness of sins in this world nor in the world to come.

"And wo unto all those who come not unto this priesthood which ye have received, which I now confirm upon you who are present this day, by mine own voice out of the heavens; and even I have given the heavenly hosts and mine angels charge concerning you.

"And I now give unto you a commandment to beware concerning yourselves, to give diligent heed to the words of eternal life.

"For you shall live by every word that proceedeth forth from the mouth of God."—Doctrine and Covenants 84: 32-44.

There is much more, but you can see from that that the Priesthood truly has great power, and unless we make up our minds to magnify the Priesthood, it would have been better that we had never had it. It is like a two-edged sword that cuts both ways, cuts to the right and cuts to the left. It also condemns those who receive the Priesthood but fail to magnify

it. It is made very plain here and that is one of the characteristics of the revlations of God; they are adapted to our understanding by simple language, without scientific phrasing. So that the young, even the young men of the Aaronic Priesthood can comprehend much of the foregoing revelation because of the simplicity of the language in which it was given.

I know that this is the Church of Jesus Christ our Lord and that He is in communication with the Church. The spirit of revelation is with us, and that is why we should seek the word that is given.

I know that Joseph Smith was a true prophet of God, a mighty messenger of truth, and a great builder of faith, and that his successors have worked under the influence of the Holy Spirit continually to strengthen the Church. I can assure you, brethren, that this people will carry on the kingdom of God by their faithfulness and devotion to the work. I am happy to be in the harness. I feel that I am in absolute harmony with the First Presidency, my file leaders, and with my brethren of the Twelve with whom I am intimately associated. I testify to you that it is the truth that the Presidency and the Twelve and the Assistants to the Twelve, the First Council of Seventy, the Presiding Bishopric, the Acting Patriarch, and many others are following along the path of rectitude and faithfulness, and in the end, brethren, the Lord will triumph, His Church will flourish and His faithful people, the members of the Church, will be saved and exalted in His presence.

Now I feel to ask the Lord to bless us and to guide us continually, that we may not be overcome by temptation and lose the spirit and power that is upon us, I humbly pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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Missionary Movements

ARRIVALS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Elder Cyril Burton of the Sheffield District was set apart by President A. K. Anastasiou on the 8th July and assigned to labour in the Birmingham District.

Sister Edna Maybury of the Sheffield District was set apart by Elder George H. Bailey on May 31st and has been assigned to labour in the Manchester District commencing on 13th July.

RELEASES.

Sister Doreen Moorhead was honourably released on July 7th and returned to her home in the London District. She has laboured for for six months in the Mission Field, principally in Sheffield District.

Sister Phyllis Clayton was honourably released on July 7th and returned to her home in the London District. For the latter part of her six months' Mission she laboured in the Sheffield District.

The Church And The Present War

ADDRESS delivered at the Sunday Morning Session of the 112th Annual Conference, April 5th, 1942, in the Salt Lake Temple, Temple Square, Salt Lake City.

By President David O. McKay

Of the First Presidency

(Continued from previous issue.)

So fundamental in man's eternal progress is his inherent right to choose, that the Lord would defend it even at the price of war. Without freedom of thought, freedom of choice, freedom of action within lawful bounds, man cannot progress. The Lord recognized this, and also the fact that it would take man thousands of years to make the earth habitable for self-governing individuals. Throughout the ages advanced souls have yearned for a society in which liberty and justice prevail. Men have sought for it, fought for it, have died for it. Ancient freemen prized it, slaves longed for it, the Magna Charta demanded it, the Constitution of the United States declared it.

"This love of liberty which God has planted in us," said Abraham Lincoln, "constitutes the bulwark of our liberty and independence. It is not our frowning battlements, our bristling seacoasts, our army, and our navy. Our defence is in the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere. Destroy this spirit, and we have planted the seeds of despotism at our very doors."

OUR OBLIGATION TO THE STATE.

A second obligation that impels us to become participants in this world war is loyalty to government.

"We believe that governments were instituted of God for the benefit of man; and that He holds men accountable for their acts in relation to them, both in making laws and administering them, for the good and safety of society.

"We believe that no government can exist in peace, except such laws are framed and held inviolate as will secure to each individual the free exercise of conscience, the right and control of property, and the protection of life."

The greatest responsibility of the state is to guard the lives, and to protect the property and rights of its citizens: and if the state is obligated to protect its citizens from lawlessness within its boundaries, it is equally obligated to protect them from lawless encroachments from without—whether the attacking criminals be individuals or nations.

As a Church:

"We believe that all men are justified in defending themselves, their friends, and property, and the government from the unlawful assaults and encroachments of all persons in times of exigency, where immediate appeal cannot be made to laws, and relief afforded."—Doctrine and Covenants 134: 11.

Even though we sense the hellish origin of war, even though we feel confident that war will never end war, yet under existing conditions we find ourselves as a body committed to combat this evil thing. With other loyal citizens we serve our country

as bearers of arms, rather than to stand aloof to enjoy a freedom for which others have fought and died.

One purpose of emphasizing this theme is to give encouragement to young men now engaged in armed conflict and to re-assure them that they are fighting for an eternal principle fundamental to the peace and progress of mankind.

God bless them and others now registered awaiting the call to duty, and those serving in defence! To each of you we send a message of confidence and trust. Many of you before entering upon your military duties were authorized messengers of peace. Others of you also hold the Priesthood. To all we say, in your personal habits let the same ideals guide you as soldiers in the army as guided you as missionaries. What the Lord said to you then is applicable to you now—

"Wherefore, gird up your loins, and take upon you my whole armour, that ye may be able to withstand the evil day, having done all, that ye may be able to stand.

"Stand, therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, having on the breastplate of righteousness, and your feet shod with of preparation of the gospel of peace."—Doctrine and Covenants 27: 15, 16.

Keep yourselves morally clean. Being soldiers or sailors is not justification for indulgence in vulgarity, intemperance, or immorality. Others may be impelled to do these things because of the beastliness of war, but you who hold the Priesthood cannot so indulge with impunity. For your own sweet lives, and for others who trust you, keep yourselves unpolluted. Your loved ones believe in you, your comrades will respect you, your officers will admire you.

Let us hope that when this mad orgy shall have ended, that the honest in heart will experience a spiritual resurrection and will associate with one another in a newness of life. As seeds of future wars are often sown around the peace table, may the spirit of the gospel of Jesus Christ and not the spirit of retaliation and revenge actuate those who meet to determine peace terms. When that blessed occasion comes, may the representatives of the nations recognize the inalienable rights of peoples everywhere to govern themselves. It would be appropriate if there were emblazoned in golden letters on the walls in which they meet, and especially cherished as motives in the hearts of those who determine the conditions of peace, the words of Christ our Lord: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven."

★

THE THINGS WE NEED.

The only things we seem to need
Are the things we haven't got,
Last week we wished it might be cold,
And now we want it hot.
If the wind blows east we want it west,
If west, we want it east,
And if we all were millioniares
We'd want the pile increased.

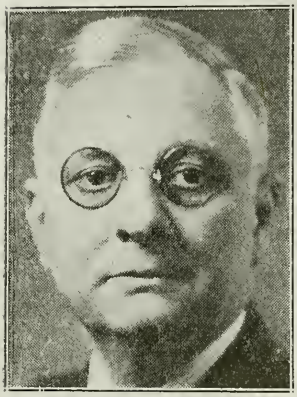
It's funny how we mortals here,
Somehow can't be content
With what we get, and not desire
The earth and firmament.
But all the time you'll notice it,
And notice it a lot,
The only things we seem to need
Are the things we haven't got.

—Anonymous.

The Light Of Truth

ADDRESS delivered at the Saturday afternoon session of the 112th Annual Conference, April 4th, 1942, in the Assembly Hall.

By President Levi Edgar Young
Of the First Council of the Seventy.



President Levi Edgar Young

A NOTED American historian has recently written: "I wish that people, particularly the American people, would have more respect for ancient truths, the lessons of history, and the Word of God." What America needs besides fifty thousand planes is a spiritual awakening, and one deep enough to remove the notion from society that a man is doing well spiritually when he manages to listen to a sermon once a month over the radio. We need a return to the old-time standards of character that make it easy for a man to become indignant over corruption, come to a boil over injustice, and get fighting mad over a wrong. We need a reconstruction of moral fibre and greater faith in the purposes of the Almighty.

We are living in a troubled and anxious world, and no time in all history have men watched more anxiously over their liberties than they are doing today. Days are dark for millions of the inhabitants of the earth. They will be darker still. But we have the will of the Lord, and consoling are the words we find in the gospel of St. John:

"Then said Jesus . . . If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." —John 8: 31, 32.

Amid the sorrows of this war-torn world, it must be remembered that there are men walking the earth beckoning us on—not abreast of us, but ahead of us. Religion explains them as men blessed of heaven; men spiritually endowed who are able to respond to the inspiration of the infinite power of God. They are good men, and wonderful is the vitality of goodness. They know that God has not separated Himself from the world, nor does He lightly regard anyone's need. There is a true Light "which ligheth every one who comes into the world," a saying rich in promise.

God has again spoken from heaven, and the Priesthood of God has again been restored to the earth. Prophets, seers, and revelators walk the earth. It is our firm conviction that the work of the Lord will grow in the hearts of men. We have faith in people, faith in the coming of God's kingdom upon the earth. Right does make might, and right will prevail some day in all the world.

(Continued on page 474)

The Fulness Of Times

(Continued from Vol. 104, No. 28; Thursday, July 9th, 1942.)

WORDS WHICH HAVE SLUMBERED.

EPISODE 6. SCENE 1.

NARRATIVE.

We are told by scholars that long ago there existed on the American Continent civilisations of a very advanced type. Also we learn from certain sacred writings that the first of these civilisations, known as the Jaredites, fled from Babylon at the time of the destruction of the Tower of Babel, and under divine guidance reached American shores. Here they grew to be a mighty people who rose in power, then waned, and finally perished. Then, sixteen centuries later came Lehi, founder of the second of these great civilisations. Lehi, a prophet of God in Jerusalem, fled with his sons, Nephi and Laman, to American shores, to escape the destruction of Jerusalem. From these sons of Lehi sprang two mighty nations, the Nephites and the Lamanites, but they, like the Jaredites before them, fell into evil ways, and were destroyed. But the priests of the Nephites left behind them the records of their people, and prophecies of things to come. This record, engraved on plates of gold by Mormon, last of the great Nephite leaders, and elaborated by his son Moroni, was hidden in the Hill Cumorah, against its finding and restoration in a latter-day. A thousand years passed, and to Joseph Smith, a country lad of Western New York, comes a series of remarkable visions. In these visions Moroni appears to him, and tells him of the record which he, Moroni, has buried on the Hill Cumorah, centuries ago, and that now, Joseph has been selected to recover this record and restore its words to mankind. The place where the sacred record lies buried is revealed to Joseph. He recognises the spot, and because of the erosion of centuries finds the stone box in which the plates were left partly exposed. As our drama opens Joseph is prising the stone cover from the ancient box.

Joseph Smith: It's true. All that I saw in my vision. All that the Angel Maroni said to me is true. A book, a book of gold leaves, bound with three rings, all very ancient and strange, and the priest's breastplate, with glowing stones attached. What a strange and beautiful book. All gold. . . . It must be worth a great deal. With that much gold I could do so many things for father, and mother, and for Alvin, who is not strong. I must examine it closely. I will take it out of the box. Oh! I cannot. My hands seem held. What has happened to me. I cannot move the book.

Moroni: No, Joseph, because you have not kept the commandments of the Lord.

Joseph Smith: The Angel Moroni! What have I done, that the book should be withheld? In what way have I not complied with the Lord's instructions?

Moroni: Have you not, Joseph, only now thought of gain, of the material worth of this book of Gold Plates, of the fame and position you might achieve once you possess it?

Joseph Smith: No. . . . No. . . . Yes! Yes, I was weak, I was tempted.

Moroni: You were warned to have no other object in view in obtaining the plates but to glorify God, not to be influenced by any other motive than that of building up His kingdom.

Joseph Smith: Yes, Moroni. Yes, I know. I have failed. And now?

The Latter-Day Saints' "Millennial Star"

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1942

EDITORIAL

Builders All

GROWING thoughtful of those great people, the Latter-day Saint Pioneers, at this time, revered anniversary of their entrance into the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, doubtless you ponder and wonder and marvel at their tenacity of purpose and sublimity of faith. Indeed it is an ensample to the world. Figuratively, the dictionary tells us, this term, Pioneer, refers to "one who goes before to clear and prepare the way." There have always been pioneers, pioneers of divers causes. Men have always "dreamed" of things to come. Some, with clear vision, have worked and gone before, and scheming, planning, building, have, before their demise, accomplished great ends. There is a great joy to be had in that, a keen sense of satisfaction. It is inspiring to know these people, to hear their personal account of their struggles and the method by which they achieved success.

Many there have been, however, who have fought and struggled and built; have seen, as Kipling so admirably puts it, "the things they gave their life to, broken," and they have stooped and "built them up with worn out tools." Unflinchingly they have faced unreasonable persecution, malevolent opposition and dastard outrage and have carried on. Sometimes the persecutor, with a shout of venomous triumph, has carried through and trampled the foundations laid, and put to death the pioneer; but when the sordid brawl has passed and the earth is o'er grown with consuming weeds, along has come another explorer, and, digging, has found the message "After me cometh a builder." These are the heroes unhonoured and unsung, but heroes just the same.

The trail from Nauvoo to Salt Lake was marked by the "mouldering heaps" of those who passed from this sphere in the execution of that tremendous feat akin to the exodus of Ancient Israel. They saw not "The Valley"; they knew not the Temple lot apportioned almost immediately after the arrival by Brigham Young: they had no opportunity to think of the most modern of all cities surveyed and planned in the finest manner.

Forty years our men worked and built to erect an edifice unto the Lord, even as the workers of Solomon worked to build that magnificent Temple. They hewed the rock from the canyons and hauled it on wagons of rough construction, drawn by oxen to the Temple site. Slowly they built, gradually the

city grew, and as firm as the foundation laid, in strength they grew in character, imparting it to their offspring until today the Latter-day Saint youth of Zion are renowned for their clarity of eye and voice and unimpeachable character. Strict adherence to the Laws of God, temporal and spiritual, gave them an inheritance that could not be bought for any amount of gold or silver, its preciousness undefinable.

From this great country of England went many souls in later years to continue the building and to those souls we owe a great debt. It is an obligation upon us to continue the building. We must build in the hearts of our brother countrymen, testimony, with the help of our God, testimony of the greatness of the Gospel of Christ. There will come a time when the "anger of the Lord will be kindled" against all wrongdoers and they who reject the Gospel of Christ. It may not be our privilege to convert a soul to the truth, but it can be, and should be, our chosen work to carry the word. To be alive to opportunity and have a hand on the pouch of seeds when fertile soil appears should ever be our state. Perhaps we may be called away before that seed shows signs of sprouting. There are others. Maybe someone more capable of explaining Gospel principles will come and build on the foundation laid. Let's not be anxious. Try to remember, "After me cometh a builder." We may even receive severe rebuke, even violent opposition—the word has been spoken, the cry has gone forth. They stoned the prophets remember in ancient days, they murdered Joseph Smith in the prime of his existence: God's work cannot be frustrated. After Joseph came a builder, and the name of Brigham Young is hailed throughout America as one of the greatest builders and colonisers ever known in that land.

Pausing in remembrance of the 24th July, 1847, think of their sufferings, reverence their anguish, and resolve to "CARRY ON !"

J. P. H.

When I was a King and a Mason—a Master proven and skilled—
I cleared me ground for a palace such as a king should build.
I decreed and dug down to my levels. Presently, under the silt,
I came on the wreck of a palace such as a King had built.

There was no worth in the fashion—there was no wit in the plan—
Hither and thither, aimless, the ruined footings ran—
Masonry, brute, mishandled, but carven on every stone:
"After me cometh a Builder. Tell him, I too have known."

* * * * *

They sent me a word from the darkness—they whispered and called me aside.
They said—"The end is forbidden." They said—"Thy use is fulfilled,
"And thy palace shall stand as that other's—the spoil of a King who shall build."

* * * * *

All I had wrought I abandoned to the faith of the faithless years.
Only I cut on the timber, only I carved on the stone:
"After me cometh a Builder. Tell him, I too have known."

—From "The Palace," by Rudyard Kipling.

Moroni: God is long suffering and full of understanding. The plates are not to be given into your hands at this time, for you have not yet proved yourself worthy. But four years from now, if you are proven faithful, the sacred book may pass into your hands.

Joseph Smith: Four years. . . . Four years! to wait!

Moroni: You must learn to keep the commandments of God, and not only to be willing to keep them, but able.

Joseph Smith: I see, I understand, but what is to become of the plates?

Moroni: They shall be safe, Joseph. While the record is in my care, no man has the power to take it away.

Joseph Smith: But am I not even to see the book again.

Moroni: God is just, Joseph, and merciful. Come to this spot one year from this time, and each of the three years following, and each time more knowledge and more strength shall be given you. In the end, if you are worthy, the book shall be placed in your hands, but this sacred record is not to be disposed of for profit, or to be held lightly, but shall be accepted with faith and reverence as a revelation for the salvation of man.

(To be continued.)

★

THE LIGHT OF TRUTH

(Continued from page 470)

I want to call your attention to what Thomas Masaryk once wrote while he was teaching. You recall that Dr. Masaryk was the President of Czechoslovakia. He taught that a good leader does not need to be master, but a good leader is one who knows how to serve and feels he himself is guided and needs to be guided. He believed in living a clean, good life, and he was tolerant, and believed that all religions should work together to make a friendly world. These are some of the things he taught:

Search for truth.

Nothing is great if it is not true.

Everything in a democracy depends upon the people. They must think and work together.

We need people united by an ideal. It is humanity that is important.

With that ideal, we will work with larger purpose for the cause of God. May God bless us all from day to day. May we have the light of His Kingdom upon the earth. This we ask in His Name. Amen.

★

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For The Young Folk

THE PLAGUES OF EGYPT.

THE Lord has always said that His people should be meek and humble. He does not mean that they should be uncultured or illmannered, but rather that the people who seek His blessings should be free from worldly pomp and pride. As we read the history of nations since the world began, we notice that as soon as a race of people become lifted up in their own pride, something comes along to humble them.

The Egyptians had been getting very proud and haughty for some time, and the Lord saw that it was fitting for them to be humbled. This race of people were so proud, they had no use for God, and defied Him openly when, through one of His prophets, he asked that the Children of Israel should be allowed to leave Egypt.

This process of breaking down the pride of the people of Egypt was to prove a very arduous and painful one. It consisted of a series of plagues, all of which were very terrible indeed. First the River was turned into blood; all the fish died, and all the water in the land became evil smelling, so that the people had nothing to drink. This lasted for seven days. Then the land was cursed with thousands and thousands of frogs, all over the place. Next the people and all the animals were overrun with bodily vermine, followed by swarms and swarms of flies which made the people of Egypt very, very uncomfortable, and spoilt all their food.

Whilst all this was happening, the heart of Pharoah was still hardened against the Israelites, so the Lord caused all the cattle in Egypt to die, but the Israelites' cattle lived; then all the Egyptians were cursed with terribly sore boils, which caused them agony when walking or moving. Still they were unrepentant, so the Lord sent a terrific hailstorm, accompanied by terrific thunderings and lightenings. Such a storm had never been seen before, and it damaged all the crops, and broke down all the plants and trees. Then, as the people were still wicked, the Lord sent a desolating scourge of locusts, which covered everything with their presence, and devoured every green leaf and plant, and every vestige of food in the fields of Egypt. Then came a plague of darkness: darkness which was so intense that it could be felt, so intense that no light could be kindled to penetrate it. For three days the land of Egypt was densely black, but the Children of Israel had light by day, just as usual.

At the end of all these plagues the heart of Pharoah was still hardened, and he would not let the people go, so the Lord sent one more plague upon Egypt, the most terrible one of all, and the one which resulted in the freedom of Israel once more, but we will hear all about that in our next story.

—E. M. B.

L.D.S. Pen Friendship League

THIS page, devoted to the interests of our young people of the Church, is being read very carefully by many thoughtful and prudent Latter-day Saints. The married life has its bliss, happiness and joy, as well as its serious side of responsibility, sorrow and pain. The beginning is so very important, so much wrought with uncertainty. Married life among a great number of people is entered in with risk rather than assurance. Mistakes are made daily. To those of our members who are about to embark upon a career of married life, we commend these words of the late President Joseph F. Smith:

"We say to our young people, get married and marry aright. Marry in the Faith, and let the ceremony be performed in the place God has appointed. Live so that you may be worthy of this blessing. If, however, obstacles, not at present removable, prevent this most perfect form of marriage, have your Bishop perform the ceremony, and then, at the earliest possible moment, go to the Temple. But do not marry those out of the Church, as such unions, almost invariably, lead to unhappiness and quarrels and often finally to separation. Besides, they are not pleasing in the sight of heaven. The believer and unbeliever should not be yoked together, for sooner or later, in time or in eternity, they must be divided again."

We welcome new members to our League:

"I have been a reader of the 'Star' for quite some time and find it very interesting. I came into contact with our Church in a very unusual way, and since then, I can honestly say, I have found life much more brighter, but I would like to find a lady friend—a member of the Church—who would write to me. You see, being in the army I get very lonely, for most of my pals get their pleasure at the village local, and of course that leaves me to go on my own. I would appreciate it very much if you would put my request into the 'Star' and help to brighten up my spare time."—Stephen Fletcher, 3863698, (Cook), c/o British Mission Headquarters, 149 Nightingale Lane, London, S.W.12.

"I am an investigator at the Batley Branch and am looking forward to being baptized soon. I live with my auntie, who is a member of the Church. I would like a Brother or Sister to write to me in the Forces, if I may join your Pen Friendship League."—Miss E. Robinson (18), 715 Leeds Road, Shaw Cross, Dewsbury.

Here is a Junior Pen Friend:

"Will you please place my name on the Junior Pen Friendship League. I am fifteen years old, fond of cycling, gardening, and as I live in the country I am very fond of the countryside. Pen friends of either sex will be very much appreciated."—Kenneth Wright, The Common, Hucknall, Notts.

LATTER-DAY SAINTS—YOUNG PEOPLE—SEEK TRUE AND LASTING FRIENDSHIP AMONG YOUR CHURCH MEMBERS.

—A. K. A.

Birmingham District Annual Conference

Held Saturday and Sunday, July 11th and 12th, 1942.
At our Chapel, Park Street, Kidderminster.

The Saturday programme commenced at 5.30 p.m. Mission President A. K. Anastasiou met with the District and Branch Presidents and Counsellors to receive reports of the Birmingham District. Very fine reports were given, showing progress, unity and growth of the work. Mission Progress Programme was profitably discussed. The meeting had to be reluctantly curtailed.

At 6.45 p.m., under the direction of Elder Melvin W. Dunn, the records of the Tabernacle Choir and Organ and versions of the "Fulness of Times" were presented. A 1-Act play, "Conversion," was ably presented by the members of the Kidderminster Branch. The audience of approximately 140 enjoyed the programme very much.

The Sunday programme began at 9.0 a.m. with Testimony meeting. President A. K. Anastasiou presided over the entire proceedings. Elder William St. John Yates, Second Counsellor in the District Presidency, conducted. After preliminary exercises and the Sacrament, 11 members were able to bear testimonies. Time could not permit for continuation of this very inspiring meeting. In attendance 60.

The first general session of the Conference commenced at 10.10 a.m., District President Norman Dunn conducting. The Mission President, Sister M. W. Anastasiou, the travelling Missionaries and the full District Presidency and several Branch Presidents and Counsellors were in attendance. Following the opening exercises, Elder William St. John Yates spoke on "Pre-existence." He gave a very encouraging address. Talks were then given by Brother John McRae on "Pre-existence," Sister Yates on "Family on Earth," and Elder W. Alvin Thomas on "The Family as an Eternal Unit." A well prepared address was given by travelling Missionary Elder Norman D. Hawkes on "Pre-existence." The remaining time was devoted to an address by President A. K. Anastasiou, who spoke on the theme of the Conference, giving fundamental facts of heavenly visitations to inaugurate the Dispensations of the Lord in the 19th century, the Meridian of Time, and in the Dispensations preceding. Scriptural data, logic and reason, coupled with the word of the Lord revealed personally and through His heavenly messengers, was the evidence and proof of the divinity of this Church.

The second session commenced at 12.30 p.m., conducted by Elder George E. Hunter, First Counsellor in the District Presidency. After the opening exercises, District Clerk Elder W. Alvin Thomas presented the General, Mission, and District Authorities for the vote of the members which, on the show of hands, was unanimous. Various officers were released and new ones sustained. Recommendations to advance various male members in the Priesthood were unanimously sustained. Elder George H. Hunter then addressed the Saints on the theme of the Conference, dealing with the subject of "Present Life." Elder C. Burton, a travelling Missionary, addressed the congregation upon "Man Disobeying God's Laws and the Historical repetition of the Consequences." The Sparkbrook Choir sang "My Jesus As Thou Wilt." Attendance 98.

After the closing of this meeting, the congregation separated into two groups—Priesthood and Ladies—under the direction of President and Sister Anastasiou respectively. The ordinations sustained by the Saints were put into effect. Brother Robert Clark Hopkins of West Kansas District, U.S.A., was ordained an Elder by President A. K. Anastasiou. Brother James B. Neil was also ordained an Elder by the President. Brother Charles Gardner was ordained an Elder by Elder George E. Hunter. Brother John Evans was ordained a Teacher by Elder William St. John Yates, and Brother Stanley Evans a Deacon by President Norman Dunn. President Anastasiou was then given opportunity to continue analysis of some of the problems presented in the Saturday Mission Progress Programme. The Spirit of the Lord was manifested in great abundance. The brethren realised the divinity of their work and their attention, earnestness and keen desire to serve and grow was very apparent. Doctrinal questions were answered and much counsel was given as to the future growth and development of the Church in the British Mission. Special

consideration was given to the importance of partaking Sacrament worthily and not bear false witness by neglecting the following fundamental points:

1. Keeping the Sabbath day holy.
2. Praying night and morning.
3. Attending the Sacrament meetings.
4. Sustaining the Authorities.
5. Keeping the Word of Wisdom.
6. Paying honest tithing and fast offerings.

Forty-eight members of the Priesthood were in attendance—a record for the Conferences of the Mission this year. Seventy-five per cent of the Priesthood present, on a show of hands, stated to be full tithe payers. Counsel was again given to other brethren to come in line with the commandments of the Lord for their own salvation and immediate protection. The Relief Society Sisters, under the direction of Sister Marie W. Anastasiou, enjoyed a fine spirit. Six Branches reported great progress during the past year and hoped for greater efforts in the future. Sister Anastasiou gave an inspiring message, specially urging the Sisters to take up the Red Cross work. The attendance was 53.

The final session convened at 3.30 p.m., conducted by District President Norman Dunn, who addressed the congregation on "The Resurrection," quoting from Matthew, Chapter 27. Distinctly and reverently he discussed this subject for the benefit of all his listeners. President Anastasiou rendered a solo, "In The Garden," by request. Sister Marie W. Anastasiou, President of the British Mission Relief Society, spoke upon the women's work and accomplishments. She also related a true story of the conversion of a Sister and how careless and unkind remarks drove her away from the Church, only to come back in the end broken hearted and lacking the talents which were her blessing when she joined the Church. Her address was punctuated with remarks of importance and sincerity. Kidderminster Choir then sang "I Wander Through The Stilly Night," after which President A. K. Anastasiou was called upon to address the Conference. He discussed the Missionary work of the Mission, giving instances of the Lord manifesting His power and opening the way to those who faithfully answered the call of the Mission Presidency. The Saints were commended for their faithfulness in this great Cause, the President saying that everyone who is willing to accept the call of the Lord and become a Missionary, even if without means, shall fulfil his or her appointment, for this work must be accomplished in this the eleventh hour. He appealed for more Missionaries, and encouraged the Home Missionaries to do their work, for they were equal in appointment to the full time Missionaries, but were required only to give their spare time to the work of the Lord. He dwelt upon the message of the First Presidency as published in the "Star" and encouraged the Saints to store one year's supply of food obtained by their own labours; to develop further plots of land and gather to live around the Branches, for the time shall come when we shall need each other's prayers and help, and the sustaining power of the Lord. The work of the District was commented upon in very encouraging terms and some features were stressed as a special means towards greater knowledge of our Church among the people of this country. Finally he spoke upon the theme of the Conference, "Pre-existent, Present and Future Life," and presented the picture of the eternal exaltation of all the faithful Saints in a most glorious state of living, dwelling among the sons and daughters of God, glorified and exalted. After the closing hymn, "Come O Thou King of Kings," the President expressed his wish to sing the hymn "God of our Fathers known of old," which was sung in prayerful attitude on behalf of our nation's cause.

Administration was given to one sick Sister. Sisters Elsie M. Linnett and Dorothea Ward expressed their readiness to go on full time Missions. Attendance 122.

The Conference altogether was a success spiritually and numerically, taking into consideration the present circumstances. The friendship, the happiness, and the well-being of the Saints was apparent, and this Conference shall long be remembered for the counsel and instructions given and the great faith which was evidenced among the Saints. —A. K. A.

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DISTRICT PRESIDENTS AND COUNSELLORS—
SEE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ON BACK OF COVER.

District Activities

London

The following appeared in a Gravesend Newspaper:

"MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION. Opening of Gravesend Branch.

"The official opening of the Gravesend M.I.A., at 128 London Road, Rosherville, took place on Wednesday last week. Mr. V. L. Palmer (President of the Association) extended a cordial welcome to all present. He then called upon the Rev. G. T. S. Prentice to offer the invocation.

"Mr. Palmer introduced Miss A. Wild and Miss E. Williams, two lady missionaries, who had come to work in the Gravesend Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Their work was especially to help in the Relief Society and Mutual Improvement Association.

"Miss Wild gave an outline of the programme offered by the M.I.A. to its lady members. Mr. Palmer, with reference to the Men's Section, said that this organisation sought to discover and bring out the various talents of youth.

"Mr. W. T. O. Probert (Headmaster, Northfleet Central School) said that in his capacity as local Youth Organiser he welcomed the inauguration of the M.I.A. He had previously known the M.I.A. and appreciated its aims and ideals.

"Mr. G. Knopp, First Councillor in the M.I.A., stated that the Club will be open on Wednesday and Friday evenings.

"Light refreshments were served, after which those present participated in various games."

The Brighton Branch Conference was held on June 28th, under the direction of District President Wm. O. Chipping. Elder A. James Willmott took charge of the business meeting. Branch President Edmund W. Wheatley conducted the Sacrament meeting. The speakers included Elders Geo. A. Spencer, Harold A. Salway and Ivan E. Workman, of the Canadian Army, and local Elder Wm. E. Mitchell.

Sister Olive A. Skelcher, Relief Society President, was released, with a vote of thanks, after four years in office.

Manchester

During the week end of 13th and 14th June, Branch Conference was

Members of Sparkbrook Branch Birmingham District, with the Banner presented to them as Winners of Mission M.I.A. Branch Achievement Contest.

held in the Rochdale Chapel. On Saturday, a social opened the proceedings, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Refreshments were provided by Brother John Woodhead, and served by the Relief Society.

The first session of the Branch Conference commenced at 2.15 p.m., speakers being Sister Woodhead, Brother Herbert Woodhead, Jnr., and President F. Waddington.

The second session was held at 6.0 p.m. Speakers at this meeting were Brother Jack Teale, Sister Waddington, and members of the Branch and District Presidencies. The attendance at both meetings was good.

The first meetings to be held in the newly acquired rooms of the Hanley Branch, convened on Sunday, July 5th, at 3.0 and 6.0 p.m.

At Sunday School there were nine members, two friends and two children. Speakers were Brothers R. J. Pearce and F. Lomas, on circuit from Oldham. Sacrament meeting, held under the direction of Branch President B. Norman, was attended by 13 members and 1 investigator. Addresses were given by President Norman, Lady Missionaries Hazel M. Sands and Lilian S. Burton, and several fine testimonies were borne.

Newcastle

A special meeting of the District and Branch Presidencies, together with the Supervisors of the District, was held at Sunderland on Sunday morning, June 14th. District President F. W. Oates was in charge, and valuable instructions were given. Short talks were given by Elders Short, Wappett, members of the District Presidency, and Lady Missionaries Sisters Astin and Emery. The 13 officers present finally took part in a lively discussion.

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DEATHS.

OWENS — On June 3rd, 1942, Brother Roy Wilson Owens of the Middlesbrough Branch , Newcastle District, was accidentally killed by falling over an 80 ft. cliff at Falmouth. His father and mother, of the Burnley Branch, Liverpool District, received the sad news from the authorities of Falmouth. He was afterwards interred in the Falmouth Cemetery. A memorial service was held in the Burnley Chapel on June 21st, 1942.

THORLEY—Brother William B. Thorley of the Nelson Branch died suddenly on June 19th. The funeral service was held on June 22nd, at his home, under the direction of President John E. Owens, who spoke at the service, after which the interment took place in the Nelson Cemetery. Sister Ellen Duckworth sang a solo at the graveside, Brother Harry Owens spoke briefly, and the dedicatory prayer was offered by President John E. Owens.

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PERSONALS.

GRIFFITHS — Sister Loraine Griffiths of the Merthyr Tydfil Branch, Welsh District, was married to Mr. David John Jones on Saturday, 4th March, 1942.

ROBERTS — Brother Harold E. Roberts was married to Miss Joan Murdock, on Friday, 8th May, 1942. Brother Roberts is a member of the Varteg Branch, Welsh District, at present serving in the Royal Air Force.

RUDD — Mavis Fullerton Rudd was the name given to the daughter of President and Sister Thomas Rudd of the Gravesend Branch, London District, on June 14th, when she was blessed by her father.

SHEARS—The infant daughter of Brother and Sister Shears of the Gravesend Branch was blessed on April 26th, 1942, by President Thomas Rudd, and given the names of Ann Louise.

GRAHAM—The baby son of Sister and President Thomas M. Graham of the Airdrie Branch, Scottish District, born June 5th, 1942, was blessed on Sunday, June 28th, by District President Andrew B. McGowan, and given the names of John Joseph.

Mormon Pioneers on the Trail
Sacred their Memory

THE SECOND CONFERENCE

OF THE

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS COUNSELLORS AND BRANCH PRESIDENTS

IS SCHEDULED FOR

AUGUST 1st, 2nd & 3rd

AT THE

BRITISH MISSION HEADQUARTERS, LONDON.

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THE AGENDA INCLUDES SEVERAL IMPORTANT ITEMS TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE PROGRAMME OF THE

BRITISH MISSION PROGRESS

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Accommodation and Catering arrangements are in the hands of a Committee.

It is recommended that Sisters who intend spending holidays with their husbands in London, arrive on Monday (3rd August), to help the Housing Committee over the weekend.

FULLER DETAILS AND ACCOMMODATION FORMS ARE BEING POSTED TO EACH DISTRICT.

The Ludo Press, 373 Earlsfield Road, London, S.W.18.